

### **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

New drawings with item 15 deleted are submitted herewith.

Claims 5 was amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection thereof for lack of antecedent basis.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious over Rink in view of Jeong. Applicants respectfully traverse.

It is not believed that Rink does not show an ignition tube extending through the combustion chamber as presently claimed. The ignition tube of the claimed invention is a tube such as shown in the Figure, and may be made, e.g., of metal. Rink have arranged a gas generating pyrotechnical material (wafer 25) in the internal tube 24, and in the interior an ignition passage 27 is arranged. This is an opening in the pyrotechnical material, however, and not an ignition tube as claimed (See col. 3, lines 5-7).

Jeong does not overcome that deficiency, i.e., show a continuous ignition tube. Jeong is merely cited for disclosing an outlet in an end plate.

Simply, there is no "igniter tube" as recited in the claims is taught by either reference.

With respect to claim 5, the Examiner cites col. 4, lines 35-44 of Rink for allegedly teaching that the number of radial openings in the igniter tube increase towards the outlet. First, there Rink does not teach an igniter tube, and a critical element is not taught or disclosed. Second, the passage, starting at line 30, states "For instance, rather than providing a single central ignition channel 27, a series of ignition indents, protuberances, or channels may be provided either at the exterior surface of the charge or extending through the charge at a plurality of locations. By providing for the initial ignition to occur at the external surface of the pyrotechnic charge, the generated gases will not need to pass through the as yet unignited portion of the charge, and possibly break such, as they pass to the inflator ports 40."

While the passage teaches that a "series" of passages may be included, it does not teach

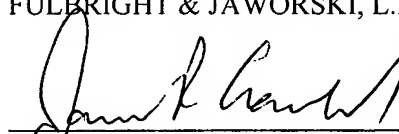
that the number of radial openings in the igniter tube(if, for the sake of argument, a tube was in fact present in Rink's device) should increase towards the outlet.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

If any fees are due to enter this paper or to maintain pendency of this application, authorization is given to charge deposit amount no. 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted,

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James R. Crawford", is written over a horizontal line.

James R. Crawford  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 39,155

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI, L.L.P.  
666 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10103  
(212) 318-3148  
Enclosures